

Application Serial No. 09/720,762
Attorney Docket No. 114474.00014
Amendment and Response to Final Office Action, Submitted August 5, 2008

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whereby flexible resilient members at the plunger rear engage a driving head affixed to an injector. (col. 7, line 14 to col. 8, line 9; col. 11, lines 30-35)

Nor does the Sudo reference teach or suggest a specific relationship between the diameters of the gasket and a restriction thereof. Sudo also does not teach to selectively laminate a gasket as recited in amended claim 1, and the Office Action cites no portion of Sudo to the contrary.

For at least the reasons discussed above, the cited references do not teach or suggest a laminated gasket with restriction as recited in amended claim 1.

III. Independent Claims 9 and 23 (Currently Amended)

Independent claims 9 and 23 are presently amended to recite that "the restriction has an inner diameter with a ratio of 0.8 or more and less than 1.0 to a diameter of the gasket." As discussed above, claims 9 and 23 stand rejected as being unpatentable over the Trull and Sudo references.

However, Trull does not teach or suggest a laminated gasket. Neither Trull nor Sudo identify or describe desired dimensions of the plunger or a restriction thereof. Further, the Trull plunger / driving head arrangement teaches away from use of a restriction of the plunger to prevent bending. For at least the aforementioned reasons, the cited references do not teach or suggest a laminated gasket having a restriction as recited in amended claims 9 and 23.

IV. Independent Claim 33 (Currently Amended)

Claims 33-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Trull and Sudo references in view of Vacca (U.S. 5,531,255).

Independent claim 33 is currently amended, and recites as follows:

33. A gasket for a pre-filled syringe, the syringe comprising a barrel into which liquid is charged, wherein a peripheral side surface of the gasket that contacts an inner surface of the syringe barrel is provided with a restriction,

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wherein the restriction has an inner diameter with a ratio of 0.8 or more and less
than 1.0 to a diameter of the gasket, and wherein a periphery of a bottom surface